

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

June 24, 2008

Victims of domestic violence face significant barriers to employment and self-sufficiency, and are some of the most vulnerable individuals the County assists. The most recent funding distribution formula for services to this population – which was purely based on the distribution of the CalWORKs and General Relief caseload at large – was an attempt at achieving an equitable spread of resources. However, what resulted instead was a serious funding disparity in certain areas of the County, which inadvertently threatened the availability of these much needed services to the families victimized and abused by batterers there.

In my District, this created an emergency situation which could have resulted in an interruption of these critical services had my office not stepped in with a one-time infusion of funds. However, that was a temporary fix that does not address the problems of dispersing funding without considering more specific elements, such as the actual level of service need each family requires and how that impacts expenditures. In providing resources to serve this highly vulnerable population, we must make every effort to ensure that the funding is not only equitable, but also accurately reflects the service needs and the level of effort.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
BURKE	_____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to work in consultation with the Director of the Department of Community and Senior Services and the Director of the Department of Public Social Services to review the CalWORKs and the General Relief domestic violence programs and report back in six months as to the actual number of domestic violence victims served by these programs in each supervisorial district, the level of effort as well as the rate of expenditures, and develop recommendations as to a more precise funding distribution formula.

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